8/21/74

Dear Larry,

Thanks for the Ray wire copy, etc., which just came. Your people apparently did not carry the AG's "kill" bulletin on the story or the replacement story. I got hold of Bud and Jim and AP reacted promptly. They say they lifted the story from the Memphis Press-Scimitar and how that sheet could quote Lesar on what he did not say and without speaking to him remains a mystery.

What is not a mystery is xthat the State misused this in a propaganda diatribe styled a "brief" after the "kill" and without reference to it. The inference is obvious. It was more clever than appears on the face because even a well-informed one like you persisted in the notion that Jim asked for the pictures. He did not. He asked for any records of any kind of Foreman's dealing with Life on those pictures. We have had the pictures for years, each of us. I spent some time tracing them out. Life was considering buying them but because there were no left-to-rights didn't.

He may have spoken to Bud about it earlier, I don't know, but I do know that Ray told me early that he never did understand why Foreman was so anxious for him to say some of the faces were familiar and that if he did it would be worth $5-$10,000. Foreman, as I recall what Ray said (and it is on tape) was insistent and pressured Ray, to whom it was all a mystery. It should have been. Had it not been there would have been something wrong. So much for what Jim and I believe Bud seeks.

AP was decent once they realized what had happened. The only copy they provided that is illegible you have provided legibly and thanks for the copy, so I can give Jim the original for his records. That may be going to the Memphis court right now.

Bud wanted me to be there this time but I had other work more important to me. I said I'd catch the first plane if he or the judge want me. Maybe the judge because I wrote him a long and indignant refutation of the nasty stuff Haile put in his "brief" as it relates to me. After I wrote the letter, independently of Bud and Jim, I learned that Haile was to be in Bud's office Monday. I had business in DC that lasted 30 minutes. I hung around all day to give Haile a chance to question me. At my request Bud had a tape recorder so Haile could question me on tape. He said he wanted to but he managed not to. I offered to go to Nashville so he could but again he demurred. Bud and Jim are both witnesses to this and in advance I'll make the same offer to the judge.

If the judge gets interested in why there is all this manufacturing, Haile will have plenty of crow waiting for him. If this judge wants to be educated, his education should have started!

Unless there is some emergency, I do not expect to know more until Bud and Jim return. Jim may stay to do a day's work. I'll be seeing him again Monday, if not Friday. No, Tuesday. I have to be in DC both days....

What I am rushing to a conclusion is originally titled WHITEWASH IV. Because [illegible] saying nothing about the contents. But it is hot. I do not expect to be able to travel with it, have no promotional money anyway (Jim borrowed the money for the printer and has a share), have little prospect of distribution, but we felt it had to be done. If there are any talk shows out there that would air me by phone, I'd be interested. If you can find time to speak to Alan Bickley at BBH and ask him to let me know if he will be interested, would appreciate.

Cruel joke for Foreman to say that money coming it would help Ray when it was contracted in perpetuity for him to get not a penny and Foreman to get 1/2 of all. ...AP erred also in saying that two charged others, Foreman and Huie with conspiracy, etc. Not Hanes, not with the other two.

If today's hearing goes well, it is to Jim's credit. He has prepared himself as I have never seen a lawyer do it for money. And unlike most lawyers, he is both willing and anxious to learn and does not begin with the assumption that there is nothing for him to learn. It may be an effective pose in court but it kills clients when it isn't so. But it is not Jim's way. Thanks and best,